

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing apparatus includes an encoding section and a decoding section. The encoding section includes means for encoding an input image to
5 generate encoded data, means for receiving a designation of an image quality for display of the input image, and means for outputting, of the encoded data, encoded data necessary to display the input image at an image quality equal to or higher than the
10 designated image quality. The decoding section includes means for decoding the encoded data output from the encoding section to generate image data, and means for, when an image based on the image data has an image quality higher than the designated image quality,
15 converting the image data into image data having the designated image quality.